

### **March 17**

In the afternoon, the President attended a St. Patrick's Day luncheon in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill.

In the evening, the President held separate meetings in the Oval Office with the leadership of four Irish political parties: David Trimble and John Taylor of the Ulster Unionist Party; John Hume and Seamus Mallon of the Social Democratic and Labor Party; Gary McMichael and David Adams of the Ulster Democratic Party; and Lord John Alderdice and Niall Johnston of the Alliance Party.

### **March 18**

In the morning, the President traveled to Las Vegas, NV. In the evening, he returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

The President announced his intention to appoint Ruth Mandel as Vice Chair of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The White House announced that the President invited Prime Minister Romano Prodi of Italy for an official visit to the United States, May 5–8.

### **March 19**

In the afternoon, the President met with King Hussein I of Jordan in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to appoint Steven Pennoyer as U.S. Commissioner of the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint James Pipkin as U.S. Federal Commissioner of the Pacific Salmon Commission.

### **March 20**

The President declared a major disaster in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement recovery efforts in the area struck by severe drought beginning January 17.

The White House announced that the President will attend the 23d annual meeting of the heads of state of the world's leading industrialized democracies in Birmingham, United Kingdom, May 15–17, and the semi-annual U.S.-European Union summit on May 18 in London. The President will visit Germany prior to his visit to the United Kingdom.

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## **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

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### **Withdrawn March 16**

Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson, of Pennsylvania, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, vice Thomas N. O'Neill, Jr., retired, which was sent to the Senate on July 31, 1997.

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## **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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### **Released March 16**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy National Security Adviser Jim Steinberg on the President's meetings with Irish political leaders on the Northern Ireland peace process

### **Released March 17**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

### **Released March 18**

Transcript of remarks by Vice President Al Gore on IRS customer service improvements

Statement by the Press Secretary: Official Visit by Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi

Announcement on release of a Health Care Financing Administration memorandum to State insurance commissioners and insurance issuers on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996